

§Appl. No. 10/719,084
Amdt. dated October 3, 2005
Reply to Office Action of, July 5, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A child restraint seat anchor device that detects independent of the presence of a seat occupant whether a child restraint seat is attached to a vehicle seat, the child restraint seat anchor device comprising:

a housing adapted to be fixed to the vehicle seat;

a moveable anchor having a coupler portion and mounting portion, the coupler portion being adapted to couple with a coupler on the child restraint seat and the mounting portion being received in the housing; the moveable anchor being shiftable within the housing from a first position, indicating that a child seat is not attached to the vehicle seat, to a second position, indicating that a child seat is attached to the vehicle seat and;

at least one spring applying a bias to the moveable anchor that urges to urge the moveable anchor to the first position;

a first stop engaged by the removable moveable anchor when the moveable anchor has shifted to the second position, the second stop, when engaged by the moveable anchor the stop transferring force applied by the coupler of the child restraint seat to the vehicle seat, and

a switch in operative association with the moveable anchor and operable independent of a seat occupant, the switch having a first and a second state and being adapted for connection to an air bag to disable deployment of the air bag, or to reduce deployment speed of the air bag, only when in the second state upon the moveable anchor being shifted to the second position, and the switch allowing deployment of the air bag at normal speed when in the first state while the moveable anchor is in the first position.

§Appl. No. 10/719,084
Amdt. dated October 3, 2005
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Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the movable anchor positively engages the second stop upon shifting to the second position.

Claim 3 (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the switch is a normally open switch which is closed upon the movable anchor being shifted to the second position.

Claim 4 (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein the switch is a micro switch having an actuator spaced from the movable anchor when the movable anchor is in the first position and engaged by the movable anchor when the movable anchor has shifted to the second position.

Claim 5 (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the housing includes a chamber having an opening through a front wall thereof which the coupler portion of the movable anchor extends, the chamber receiving the mounting portion of the movable anchor, the chamber having a rear wall defining the first stop that is spaced a selected distance from a front wall, which front wall defines the second stop.

Claim 6 (Original) The device of claim 5 wherein the mounting portion of the movable anchor includes shoulder portions which engage the front wall adjacent to the opening through which the coupling portion of the movable anchor extends.

Claim 7 (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the mounting portion of the movable anchor includes a recess therein in which the at least one spring and the micro switch are positioned.

Claim 8 (Original) The device of claim 7 wherein the at least spring has a first end abutting a portion of the front wall of the housing disposed within the recess and a second end engageable by a rear wall of the recess in the movable anchor.

§Appl. No. 10/719,084
Amdt. dated October 3, 2005
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Claim 9 (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein there are two springs with the micro switch positioned therebetween.

Claim 10 (Original) The device of claim 9 including bolt holes through the front wall adapted to receive bolts for fixing the device to a vehicle seat.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) An arrangement for attaching a child restraint seat to the frame of a seat back of a vehicle seat, the arrangement comprising:

a pair of child restraint seat anchors positioned in spaced relation to one another on the frame of the seat back, at least one of the anchors being a movable anchor disposed in a housing fixed to the seat back and being shiftable between a first position, indicating that the child seat is not attached, and a second position indicating that a child seat is attached;

at least one spring disposed between a wall of the housing and the movable anchor for urging the movable anchor to the first position;

a first stop within the housing engageable by the movable anchor when the movable anchor is in the first position;

a second stop within the housing engageable by the movable anchor when the movable anchor has shifted to the second position, ~~the second stop~~, when engaged by the movable anchor, the second stop transferring force applied by the coupler of the child restraint seat to the vehicle seat, and

a switch in operable association with the movable anchor and operable independent of the presence of a seat occupant, the switch having a first state and a second state and being adapted for connection to an air bag to disable disenble deployment of the air bag or to decrease deployment speed of the air bag only when in the second state upon the movable anchor being moved to the second position, the switch allowing deployment of the air bag at normal speed when in the first state while the movable anchor is in the first position.

§Appl. No. 10/719,084
Amdt. dated October 3, 2005
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Claim 12 (Original) The arrangement of claim 11 wherein the switch is a normally open electrical switch.

Claim 13 (Original) The arrangement of claim 12 wherein the switch is within the housing.

Claim 14 (Original) The arrangement of claim 11 wherein the second stop is positively engaged by the movable anchor when the movable anchor is moved to the second position by attachment of the child restraint seat to the movable anchor.

Claim 15 (Original) The arrangement of claim 11 wherein the movable anchor is slidably mounted for sliding between the first and second positions.

Claim 16 (Original) The arrangement of claim 11 wherein the movable anchor is pivotably mounted for pivoting between the first and second positions.

Claim 17 (New) The arrangement of claim 11 wherein the switch has only a first state and a second state.

Claim 18 (New) The arrangement of claim 1 wherein the switch has only a first state and a second state.

Claim 19 (New) The arrangement of claim 17 wherein the child seat is secured to the vehicle seat independently of a seat belt and seat belt anchor.

§Appl. No. 10/719,084
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Claim 20 (New) The arrangement of claim 1 wherein the anchor is independent of a seat belt or seat belt anchor.